

<b>TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b), 1.97(c), or 1.97(d)</b>			<b>Attny. Docket No. 2000U044.US</b>
<b>In Re Application of: Szul, et al.</b>			
<b>U.S. Serial No. 09/729,557</b>	<b>Filing Date December 04, 2000</b>	<b>Examiner Robert D. Harlan</b>	<b>Group Art Unit 1713</b>

E.L.P.  
4/11/03  
#9

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Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

- ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

**37 CFR § 1.97(c)**

- ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); after three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or after the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114, but before the mailing date of:

1. a Final Action under § 1.113,
2. a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or
3. an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application,

and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ the fee as set forth in § 1.17(p), or
- ☐ the following statement under § 1.97(e)(1): each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

**37 CFR § 1.97(d)**

- ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after a Final Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee. Submitted herewith is the fee as set forth in § 1.17(p) and the following statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1): each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicant hereby requests consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, USPTO form 1449, submitted herewith.

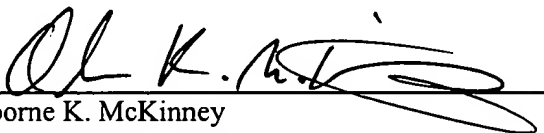
☒ Legible copies of the references are enclosed.

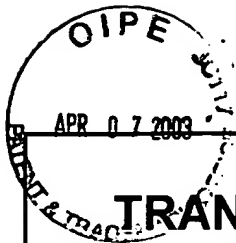
☐ This application is a:  
☐ Continuation / Divisional,  
☐ Continuation-in-Part,

of U.S.S.N. \_\_\_\_\_. Copies of the cited references are  
☐ enclosed; ☐ not enclosed. References are available in the parent application(s) if not enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 05-0589.

03-31-03  
Date

  
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1713

# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/729,557
Filing Date	12/04/2000
First Named Inventor	John F. Szul
Group Art Unit	1713
Examiner Name	Harlan, Robert D.
Attorney Docket Number	2000U044.US

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4 (+ references)
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## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1449 Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of References	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Part/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts		

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REMARKS

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Or Individual name	Osborne K. McKinney	Registration No.	40,084
Signature			
Date	March 31, 2003		

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify having information and a reasonable basis for belief that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date:

March 31, 2003

Typed or printed name	Tammy L. Hodges		
Signature		Date	March 31, 2003



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.		SERIAL NO.	
2000U044.US		09/729,557	
APPLICANT			
Szul, et al.			
FILING DATE		GROUP	
December 04, 2000		1713	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBL. DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AK	EP 0 856 525 A	08/05/1998	Europe				
	AL	WO 97/48742 A	12/24/1997	PCT				
	AM	JP 2000 063415	2/29/2000	Japan			X Abstract	
	AN							
	AO							

OTHER DISCLOSURES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages of Publication, Etc.)

	AP	
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next comment to applicant